



**Embassy of the United States of America
CONSULAR SECTION**

129 Dr. Sophie Redmonstraat, Paramaribo, Suriname

DNA TESTING INFORMATION SHEET

When documentary evidence is insufficient to confirm a relationship that supports a claim to citizenship or visa eligibility, DNA testing is an option. DNA testing is voluntary; all expenses and risks are the responsibility of the parties involved. ***The Embassy will only accept the results of DNA tests done by a laboratory in the United States accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB).*** At this time, only the Polymerase Chain Reaction-Short Tandem Repeats (PCR-STR) and Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) methods of DNA testing are accepted. Test samples are collected either by buccal (cheek or mouth) swabs or by drawing blood. The Embassy recommends using buccal swabs, when possible, because they are easier to transport and less intrusive.

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Petitioner/putative parent identifies a laboratory in the U.S accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks. He/she contacts the laboratory to have his/her sample taken.
2. U.S laboratory sends instructions, a collection kit and a prepaid DHL or Federal Express airway bill directly to United States Embassy in Paramaribo (listed overleaf).
3. The Embassy contacts applicant and confirms that the collection kit has been received. The Embassy will give the applicant contact information for the Panel Physicians and assist the applicant in setting an appointment date to have his/her sample collected at the Embassy.
4. The appointment with the physician takes place in the Embassy with representatives from the Consular Section to witness the sample collection. The applicant must present his/her passport at the appointment. The applicant must also provide a photocopy of the biographical page of his/her passport. If any item is missing, the sample will not be collected.
5. The Embassy arranges for the transfer of the sample from the medical doctor/Embassy to DHL or Federal Express for transport to the U.S. laboratory chosen by the petitioner/putative parent.

Test results: The laboratory must deliver all test results directly to Immigration Office or the Embassy. The Embassy will not accept test results from anyone else. The Embassy will contact the applicant after the results have arrived.

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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT OR PETITIONER/PUTATIVE PARENT

My signature below acknowledges that I have read the information above and understand that the U.S. Embassy and its employees bear no responsibility with regard to DNA testing.

Applicant or Petitioner/Putative Parent (sign & date)

Accredited Blood/Genetic Testing Laboratories:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has approved more than fifty U.S. laboratories to perform genetic tests to establish family relationships for immigration purposes. A complete list of laboratories is available upon request from the Embassy, any DHS office or the AABB home page:

http://www.aabb.org/Content/Accreditation/Parentage_Testing_Accreditation_Program/AABB_Accredited_Parentage_Testing_Laboratories/aboutptlabs.htm.